

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: PANDIAN et al.
Title: METHODS AND KITS FOR
DETECTING ITA IN A
BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE
Appl. No.: 10/716,739
Filing Date: 11/18/2003
Examiner: Gary W. Counts
Art Unit: 1641
Confirmation 6774
Number:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.114

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby request for continued examination of the above-referenced application. This request is filed prior to a decision on the appeal, therefore, should be treated as a request to withdraw the appeal and to reopen prosecution of the application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.